Status of the Claims

1. (Original) A method for improving the post-operative success of glaucoma filtration surgery, said method comprising the steps of:

introducing proximal to the surgical site an implant comprising dexamethasone at a concentration from about 40 to 80 weight percent of the implant and poly-lactate glycolic acid copolymer at a concentration of at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

wherein said therapeutically active agent is released within a therapeutic dosage which does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 weeks.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said implant further comprises a release modular.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said release modulator is a hydrophilic entity.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said release modulator is hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 2, wherein said release modulator is a therapeutically active agent.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein said release modulator is a water soluble antibiotic.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, wherein said release modulator is ciprofloxacin.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein said release modulator is an anti-proliferative agent.

9. (Original) An implant according to claim 8, wherein said release modulator is 5-fluorouracil.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said poly-lactate glycolic acid copolymer has a relative average molecular weight between about 10 and about 60 kD.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said implant is introduced intrasclerally beneath a partical-thickness scleral flap created during glaucoma filtration surgery.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, comprising the additional step of positioning said implant upon introduction beneath said partial-thickness scleral flap such that said flap partially covers said implant when closed.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said implant is introduced episclerally.

14. (Original) A method for improving the post-operative success of glaucoma filtration surgery, said method comprising the steps of:

introducing proximal to the surgical site an implant comprising dexamethasone at a concentration from about 40 to 80 weight percent of the implant and a poly-lactate glycolic acid copolymer having a relative average molecular weight between about 10 and about 60 kD at a concentration of at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

wherein said therapeutically active agent is released within a therapeutic dosage which does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 weeks.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein said implant further comprises a release modulator.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein said release modulator is a therapeutically active agent.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein said release modulator is an anti-proliferative drug.

18. (Original) A method for improving the post-operative success of glaucoma filtration surgery, said method comprising the steps of:

introducing proximal to the surgical site an implant comprising a therapeutically active agent at a concentration from about 10 to 80 weight percent of the implant, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose at a concentration from about 10 to 50 weight percent of the implant, and at least one pharmacologically acceptable biodegradable polymer having a relative average molecular weight between about 10 and 60 kD at

a concentration of at least about 20 weight percent of the implant;

wherein said therapeutically active agent is released within a therapeutic dosage which does not vary by more than about 100% for a period of at least about 3 weeks.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein said pharmacologically acceptable biodegradabe polymer comprises a poly-lactate glycolic acid copolymer.

20. (Withdrawn) A biodegradable implant for placement in an eye, comprising: a steroid and a polylactic acid polyglycolic acid (PLGA) copolymer, wherein the steroid makes up between about 1 percent by weight and about 80 percent by weight of the biodegradable implant, and wherein the implant releases at least about 20% of the steroid within about 1 week when measured under infinite sink conditions *in vitro*.

21. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the steroid is dexamethasone.

22. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 21, wherein the dexamethasone makes up about 50 percent by weight of the implant.

23. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the steroid is located within a polylactic acid polyglycolic acid (PLGA) copolymer matrix.

24. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the implant releases at least about 50% of the dexamethasone within 2 weeks when measured under infinite sink conditions *in vitro*.

25. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the implant releases at least about 80% of the dexamethasone within about 3 weeks when measured under infinite sink conditions *in vitro*.

26. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the implant is configured as a disc.

27. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 26, wherein the implant has a thickness of about 0.15 mm.

28. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 26, wherein the implant has a diameter of about 2.5 mm.

29. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the steroid is dexamethasone and makes up about 20% by weight of the implant.

30. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, wherein the implant is sized to be placed intrasclerally or intralammellary in an eye.

31. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, further comprising an additional different therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of anti-inflammatory agents, anti-

proliferative agents, anti-viral agents, and anti-bacterial agents.

32. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, further comprising 5-flurouracil mixed with the steroid and the PLGA copolymer.

33. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, further comprising ciprofloxacin mixed with the steroid and the PLGA copolymer.

34. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20 formed by an extrusion process.

35. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, further comprising a release modifier.

36. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 20, which includes no release modifier.

37. (Withdrawn) A biodegradable implant for placement in an eye, comprising: a mixture of an anti-inflammatory agent and a biodegradable polymer, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent makes up between about 1 percent by weight and about 80 percent by weight of the biodegradable implant, and wherein the implant releases the anti-inflammatory agent at a substantially constant rate for at least about three weeks as the implant degrades.

38. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the

biodegradable polymer is a copolymer.

39. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the biodegradable polymer is a polylactic acid polyglycolic acid (PLGA) copolymer.

40. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the implant releases at least about 10% of the anti-inflammatory agent within about 3 days.

41. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 40, wherein the implant releases at least about 50% of the anti-inflammatory agent within about 2 weeks.

42. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 41, wherein the release of the anti-inflammatory agent is measured under infinite sink conditions *in vitro*.

43. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 41, wherein the implant releases at least about 80% of the anti-inflammatory agent within about 3 weeks.

44. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is a steroid.

45. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 44, wherein the steroid is dexamethasone.

46. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the

implant is configured as a disc.

47. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, further comprising an additional different therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of anti-inflammatory agents, anti-proliferative agents, anti-viral agents, and anti-bacterial agents.

48. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the anti-inflammatory agent is dexamethasone provided in an amount of about 50% by weight of the implant.

49. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, further comprising a release modifier mixed with the anti-inflammatory agent and the biodegradable polymer.

50. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, which includes no release modifier.

51. (Withdrawn) The implant of claim 37, wherein the mixture is an extruded mixture.